

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Pt. 3c

the United States or other individuals pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3056;

(4) Records required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(5) Investigatory material compiled solely for determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment, military service, Federal contracts, or access to classified information, but only to the extent that disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of a source who furnished information to the Government under an express promise that his identity would be held in confidence, or, prior to September 27, 1975, under an implied promise that his identity would be held in confidence;

(6) Testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service the disclosure of which would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process; or

(7) Material used to evaluate potential for promotion in the armed services, but only to the extent that the disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of a source who furnished the information to the Government under an express promise that his identity would be held in confidence, or, prior to September 27, 1975, under an implied promise that his identity would be held in confidence;

(b) Publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER is made in accordance with the requirements (including general public notice) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553, to include, at a minimum:

(1) The name of the system of records;

(2) The specific provision or provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, and the appropriate sections of this part promulgated pursuant thereto, from which the system is to be exempted; and

(3) The reasons for the exemption; and

(c) The system of records is exempted from one or more of the following provisions of the Privacy Act and the appropriate sections of this part promulgated pursuant thereto:

(1) 5 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3); 18 CFR 3b.226(c)—Making the accounting of disclosures available to the individual named in the record at his request;

(2) 5 U.S.C. 552a(d); 18 CFR 3b.221, 3b.224—Granting an individual the right of access to his records and permitting him to request amendment of such;

(3) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(1); 18 CFR 3b.201(a)—Requiring maintenance of relevant and necessary information in a system of records as required by statute or Executive order of the President;

(4) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)(G); 18 CFR 3b.3(a)(8)—Requiring a description of procedures for determining if a system contains a record on an individual in the public notice of the system of records;

(5) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)(H); 18 CFR 3b.3(a)(9)—Requiring a description of procedures for gaining access to and contesting the contents of a record in the public notice of the system of records;

(6) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)(I); 18 CFR 3b.3(a)(10)—Requiring a description of the categories of the sources of records in the public notice of the system of records; and

(7) 5 U.S.C. 552a(f); 18 CFR 3b.220–3b.224—Requiring agency rules for determining if an individual is the subject of a record, for handling requests for access, for granting requests for access, for amending records, and for fees.

PART 3c—STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Sec.

3c.1 Cross-reference to employee ethical conduct standards and financial disclosure regulations.

3c.2 Nonpublic information.

3c.3 Reporting fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption and cooperation with official inquiries.

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 717g; 16 U.S.C. 825(b); 42 U.S.C. 7171, 7172.

SOURCE: Order 589, 61 FR 43415, Aug. 23, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 3c.1

§ 3c.1 Cross-reference to employee ethical conduct standards and financial disclosure regulations.

Employees of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) are subject to the executive branch-wide financial disclosure regulations at 5 CFR part 2634, the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch at 5 CFR part 2635, the Commission regulations at 5 CFR part 3401 which supplement the Standards of Ethical Conduct, and the executive branch-wide employee responsibilities and conduct regulation at 5 CFR part 735.

§ 3c.2 Nonpublic information.

(a) Section 301(b) (16 U.S.C. 825(b)) of the Federal Power Act and section 8(b) (15 U.S.C. 717g) of the Natural Gas Act prohibit any employee, in the absence of Commission or court direction, from divulging any fact or information which may come to his or her knowledge during the course of examination of books or other accounts.

(b) The nature and time of any proposed action by the Commission are confidential and shall not be divulged to anyone outside the Commission. The Secretary of the Commission has the exclusive responsibility and authority for authorizing the initial public re-

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lease of information concerning Commission proceedings.

§ 3c.3 Reporting fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption and cooperation with official inquiries.

(a) Employees shall, in fulfilling the obligation of 5 CFR 2635.101(b)(11), report fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption in Commission programs, including on the part of Commission employees, contractors, subcontractors, grantees, or other recipients of Commission financial assistance, to the Office of Inspector General or other appropriate Federal authority.

(b) All alleged violations of the ethical restrictions described in § 3c.1 that are reported in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section to an appropriate authority within the Commission shall in turn be referred by that authority to the Designated Agency Ethics Official or his or her designee, or the Inspector General.

(c) Employees shall cooperate with official inquiries by the Inspector General; they shall respond to questions truthfully under oath when required, whether orally or in writing, and must provide documents and other materials concerning matters of official interest. An employee is not required to respond to such official inquiries if answers or testimony may subject the employee to criminal prosecution.